

Ogden Morning Examiner

And Successors to THE DAILY STATE JOURNAL

VOL. VII—NO. 70.

OGDEN, UTAH, SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 1910.

PRICE 65 CENTS PER MONTH

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FIREMEN MAY QUIT WORK

Situation More Critical and Railroads of West May be Tied Up.

STRIKE THREATENS TO AFFECT OGDEN

Conferences Between Trainmen and Managers at Chicago—Result Will Be Known in 48 Hours.

Chicago, March 12.—Admissions were made on both sides tonight that the controversy between 30,000 firemen operating on 150,000 miles of railroad, west, northwest and southwest of Chicago and the railroad managers had become critical and that the question of a strike, being up practically all the systems between here and the Pacific coast, would be settled within 48 hours.

President W. S. Carter of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, on behalf of the firemen, today sent to the general managers committee of the railroads a request for a clear statement of the employers' position. The brotherhood asked for information on three points, viz: increased wage scale, which the railroads say would amount to an increase of 22 1/2 per cent, but which the firemen say would only equal 12 1/2 per cent.

The right of the union to represent the firemen after they have been promoted either to be engineers or to any other capacity.

Managers' Announcement.—The right of the union to have authority in questions of seniority or the promotion of old-time employees.

In previous negotiations the brotherhood said it was willing to submit the wage question to arbitration, but the other two points were settled without the aid of a third party.

It was announced by the general managers' committee tonight that an answer was ordered sent to President Carter denying this request and leaving it to the union, despite its "strike vote" to take what future course they think best. The answer, it was said, probably will reach Mr. Carter tomorrow.

It is said the recent vote showing more than eighty per cent of the men to be against accepting the offer of the railroads would enable the national officers to call a strike at any time.

Committee's Statement.

Negotiations have been on for six weeks. If a strike were called it is said 25,000 other employees would be forced to quit work. At today's meeting ten general managers were present. At the close of the session a member of the committee said:

"Although we confidently hope to reach an agreement on arbitration the situation is that critical. In the face of the so-called strike vote, we have told the men we will not grant the two points they ask for before submitting the wage dispute to arbitration."

"A strike at this time certainly would not be wise. We do not wish to alarm the business interests of the country and we shall exert every influence to induce the brotherhood to continue to act in a friendly spirit. We trust the whole matter will be settled by Monday."

O. L. Dickson, assistant to the president of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad, gave out a formal statement as follows:

"We believe the public need have no fear of suspension of business on account of a great railroad strike. We have offered to arbitrate under the government law placed on the statute books at the instance of organized labor, the wage question."

"Three other labor organizations have recently accepted arbitration and another important road, the Baltimore and Ohio, has just succeeded in adjusting its differences with the trainmen by mediation. There is no reason to believe that another intelligent body of men whom we have endeavored to deal fairly with, is going to act hastily."

CARNEGIE DEFENDS THE TARIFF LAW

San Francisco, March 12.—In a speech delivered here tonight at a banquet tendered him by the local chamber of commerce Andrew Carnegie defended the Payne-Aldrich tariff law, declaring it a very decided improvement upon its predecessor. He asserts that the tariff will grow less and less important as a protective measure and of increasing importance as a source of revenue.

THINGS AHEAD OF ONE TIM WOODRUFF

New York, March 12.—Elihu Root arrived here tonight from Washington for his conference tomorrow with Republican leaders on the situation in the state party.

"Will you see Mr. Woodruff?" was the first question asked.

"I certainly shall," he answered with emphasis.

"Alone or at a conference with others?"

"Alone," answered Mr. Root, tersely.

PUBLICITY BILL HEARD

Congress Favorably Considers Measure to Publish Political Campaign Expenses.

STRONG PRESSURE ACCOMPLISHES ACTION

Republicans Reluctantly Appear to Take up Bill and Fight is Finally Ended.

Washington, March 12.—The bill requiring compulsory publicity for election campaign contributions and expenses was reported out today by the house committee on elections of president, vice president and members of congress, with a favorable recommendation. The bill was introduced by Representative McCall, Republican, Mass.

Action on the measure was accomplished only after prominent men, who have been advocates of the measure had brought much pressure to bear. The bill had been in the committee's hands since the session began.

Recently Perry Belmont of New York; Governor Judson Harmon, of Ohio and Dr. Charles W. Eliot, former president of Harvard, addressed letters which have appeared in print, deploring the inactivity in the matter and demanding that the committee take some action.

The Democratic members of the committee, led by Representative Rucker of Missouri, after petitioning Chairman Gaines several times to call a meeting of the committee to consider the bill a few days ago gave out statements strongly denouncing the Republican for "holding up the bill." It was declared that the Democrats were solidly in favor of the McCall measure.

When the committee convened today it was with great difficulty that a quorum was obtained. After waiting for an hour and a half, sufficient Republican absentees were found. The bill was taken up at once and with slight amendment was approved, the Democrats voting for it and the Republicans being divided.

Those voting for the bill were Representative Rucker, Missouri; Hardwick, Georgia; Conroy, New York; Democrats and Ellis, Oregon, Republican. Representatives Sullyway of New Hampshire, and Madden of Illinois, Republicans, voted in the negative. Chairman Gaines refrained from voting.

The reporting of the bill insures that it will be taken up by the house at an early date, and according to the claims of both Republicans and Democrats will pass the house. If it becomes a law, it will apply to the congressional elections this fall.

The bill makes it mandatory for the treasurer of every political committee, in any congressional campaign where two or more states are affected, to file not more than fifteen days nor less than ten days before an election with the clerk of the house of representatives, a complete detailed statement of all campaign contributions in excess of \$10 and their disbursements.

He must also file within 30 days following the election a final sworn statement. The statement must contain the names of donors and amounts given in cases where more than \$100 is given. In cases of less than that amount the aggregate must be furnished.

In the case of expenditures the names of persons to whom money is paid must be given in all cases where the amount exceeds \$10 and in cases of amounts less than that amount the aggregate must be published.

The penalty provided for a violation of the law is a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment for one year, or both.

Relative of Taft Killed Himself

Pittsburg, Mar., 12.—Suicide by shooting caused the death of Thomas McK. Laughlin, brother-in-law of Mrs. Taft, wife of President Taft. Confirmation of many rumors to this effect was given by Coroner Samuel C. Jamison after a visit to Mr. Laughlin's home today. While Mr. Laughlin is reported to have died at 10 o'clock yesterday morning the coroner did not receive official news of it until 1 p.m. today when the physicians' certificate of death was received. This stated the cause of death as cerebral apoplexy and was signed by Dr. T. M. McKinnan.

Persistent calls for information caused an investigation after which the coroner said that the physicians' return was technically correct although the cerebral hemorrhage had been caused by a bullet.

Efforts had been made to conceal the fact that Mr. Laughlin ended his own life.

It was not intended that even the president or any member of the family beyond George M. Laughlin, the brother and widow should know the actual cause. All traces of the wound are said to have been removed from the body in embalming. The rumors of suicide are thought to have been spread through the family servants.

Situation in Manchuria Under Close Inspection by Officials



Washington, March 12.—Although it is denied in official quarters that there is any prospect of serious disagreement with Japan over the question of Manchuria, despite the vigorous warning of a great commercial struggle in the far east delivered by Jacob H. Schiff, the New York banker, a few days ago, it is known that the matter of our commercial rights in Manchuria is giving grave concern to the government. In plain terms it is asserted that Japan and Russia have reached an agreement to shut other nations out of Manchuria and to impair Chinese rights in that great province without regard to the open door principle formulated by Secretary Hay and agreed to by the powers. The rejection by Japan and Russia of Secretary Knox's proposal that China construct a railroad across Manchuria

in order to develop that country for foreign trade is considered evidence of an understanding between the two powers reached, of course, since their recent great war. Some years ago we sent to Manchuria cotton goods alone to the value of \$10,000,000 annually, but our trade has

fallen off greatly. Manchuria is a very good country for wheat growing, and hopes have been entertained that the nations might find there a source of supply of breadstuffs when their own resources reached their limit. Frequent conferences have been held of late at the state department between Secretary Knox and Baron Uchida, Japanese ambassador to the United States. At the head of the Japanese empire's negotiations with other countries is Baron Komura, minister for foreign affairs, who was formerly the mikado's envoy to this country.

RAILROAD BILL IS AMENDED

Administration Measure Inflicting Burden on Merged Lines Gets New Attention.

Washington, March 12.—The administration railroad bill was amended in the house committee on interstate commerce today so as to make commercial or market valuation of railroad properties by the interstate commerce commission a condition precedent to the merging, consolidation or reorganization of roads subject to the interstate commerce law.

This change, one of the most drastic at twenty millions.

(Continued on Page Two.)

EXPLOSION OF GAS KILLS SEVEN MINERS

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Mar., 12.—Seven miners lost their lives in the No. 5 shaft of the Lehigh and Wilkesbarre Coal company near here tonight in an explosion of gas. There were eight men in the party and one of them was away from the scene of the explosion getting some tools and was not injured. All the dead were suffocated. Officials have no theory as to the cause of the explosion. When the bodies were brought up there were many pathetic scenes around the mouth of the shaft. The men were all expert English-speaking miners.

KHARTOUM AGOG WITH EXCITEMENT

Residents Fairly Quivering in Anticipation of Roosevelt's Arrival Tomorrow.

Khartoum, March 12.—No event in recent years has excited such interest among the residents of Khartoum as the approaching visit of Theodore Roosevelt who is expected to arrive here Monday. Great preparations have been made for his entertainment. A house party will be given at the palace in his honor, as well as numerous functions at the palace and elsewhere, including an official dinner at the soudan club.

On their way to meet Colonel Roosevelt and his son, Kermit, are Mrs. Roosevelt and daughter, who called from Naples on March 4 for Alexandria. They, too, are expected to arrive at Khartoum on Monday.

Three days will be given up to entertainment and sightseeing, and on March 17, the trip to Cairo will be begun.

During the visit to the surrounding district Roosevelt had luncheon and tea at the American mission. He showed great interest in the work among the shilluks and addressed four hundred of them through an interpreter. The former president has planned visits to the Gordon memorial college built by Lord Kitchener, with subscriptions collected in England in 1898; the Assin college, the Girls' School at Luxor and similar institutions.

BODY OF GIRL FOUND IN LAKE

Clad Only in Night Gown Remains Provide Solution of Mystery.

New York, Mar., 12.—Clad only in the night gown she wore when she disappeared the body of Miss Helena Bloodgood was found today in Lake Caratago, by men who have been dragging the bottom for three days. Miss Bloodgood's parents have been scouring the neighborhood in automobiles in search of their daughter. When her body was found they were prostrated.

SWEEPING ORDER RESTRAINS UNION

Richmond, Va., March 12.—By dismissing the appeal of the United Mine Workers of America the United States circuit court of appeals practically perpetuated a temporary injunction which is of sweeping character.

The case is that of President Lewis of the Mine Workers as an individual and vice president of the union against the Hitchman Coal and Coke company of West Virginia and is an appeal from the decision of the United States circuit court of the north district of West Virginia at Philippi. The injunction restrains the union from interfering with employees of the company for the purpose of unionizing the mine; from interfering and conspiring to interfere with employees of the plaintiff so as knowingly to bring about in any manner the breaking of the plaintiff's employees' contracts for service existing at the time or thereafter entered into; from trespassing on the company's property; from compelling by their threats of violence any employee to leave from establishing pickets around the property of the company for the purpose of using violence or threatening or persuasive language to induce the company's employees to leave.

The case was not decided on its merits as the appeal was not taken within thirty days as required by law. This was the basis of the decision of the appellate court.

"But in addition to this question of inducing the violation of lawful contracts it seems to me very clear, no matter how meritorious an organization this United Mine Workers of America may be its purpose and intent, the allegations of this bill, if true, disclose as plain a conspiracy upon the part of these defendants to injure and ruin the plaintiff as could be well conceived of."

The sole excuse, continues the decision is alleged to be that some of the plaintiff's rival operators refused to comply with the union's demands and exactions.

"Actuated by a natural sympathy for labor and an earnest desire to uplift and aid it which we all have," says the court, "many sincere but misguided persons would concede to it an estate superior to and above that possessed by other classes in this republic of liberty and equal right and they are fond of denouncing courts of equity for staying the hands of labor leaders in their unlawful exercise of power to achieve this end."

Embroidery and braiding are elaborately employed on waists and skirts for after Easter.

KEEP HANDS OFF FIGHT

President Taft, and Others to Whom Appeal Was Made Cannot Help.

PHILADELPHIA'S HOPES AGAIN ARE SHATTERED

Intervention From Outside Sources Fails to Materialize and Settlement Still Distant.

Philadelphia, Pa., Mar., 12.—Two of the four mediums which Philadelphia hoped a strike settlement might be reached were today practically eliminated. Yesterday it was hoped that either President Taft, the bankers of Philadelphia, the national Civic Federation or the local councilman bodies would find a way to lead a hand to stop the strife. Today word came from Washington, unofficially but on seemingly good authority that the president, through the department of commerce and labor, could not see his way clear to intervene. The reason given was that the trouble is purely of a local nature.

Bankers declared that the financial interests probably would keep hands off the fight. Frank B. Reeves, president of the Philadelphia Clearing house association took a strong stand on the question of exclusive recognition of its organization. Mr. Reeves said today:

"I cannot see how our financial institutions can bring their power to bear in any way that will help to solve the problem."

Whether the National Civic Federation will take up the strike settlement and the councilmen can be forced to take action remains to be seen. Another telegram was sent today to Seth Love, head of the federation, asking that that body offer of mediation. Mr. Love represented the federation would do so if he could be assured the offer would be acceptable to both sides.

There was no change today in the general strike situation. Employees predict that Monday will see the beginning of a general break among the sympathetic strikers, and dozens of local unions held meetings today and tonight to lay their plans to hold the men together.

Union bakers employed in a big department store have gone on strike and seriously crippled the supply of bread sold at the store.

There was the usual number of disturbances in the Kensington district late this afternoon. Many cars were stoned, but at only one place did the police have much trouble. It was noticed today that the police refrained from using their clubs in dispersing crowds.

Child Is Killed.

The most serious disturbances of the evening occurred when a four-year-old child, was killed by a car, run at high speed to get away from men and boys who were stoning it.

The car was stopped and an angry crowd gathered and made an attempt to get at the motorist, H. N. Gamble of White Plains, N. Y. The policeman aboard, drew his revolver and held the crowd back while another policeman sent in a riot call. There were cries of "lynch him" and it is said a woman produced a rope. The situation was exceedingly critical when a squad of mounted policemen arrived. The crowd began to scatter when the police were forced to use their clubs. Several persons were slightly wounded. Three men and one woman were arrested.

Des Moines, Ia., March 12.—The Des Moines police last night captured 22 of the 25 girls who escaped in the evening from the Iowa Girls' Industrial school at Mitchellville. The girls were dressed in the school uniform and were easily found. Many of them say they walked from Mitchellville to Des Moines, a distance of sixteen miles.

Mr. Davis said the engineers of the reclamation service, in order to succeed in their work and in their relations with land owners, ought to have the earnest support of the secretary of the interior. He did not feel that Secretary Ballinger had given his support to this.

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MR. PEPPER GETS "HOT"

Sharp Clash Between Attorneys at Close of Ballinger-Pinchot Hearing.

LAWYERS "TRIFLING" SAYS SENATOR, CAUSING WOE

Chief Davis Flatly Contradicts Statements of Former Secretary Concluding Testimony.

Washington, March 12.—A sharp clash occurred between Senator Nelson, chairman of the Ballinger-Pinchot committee and Attorney Pepper, counsel for Gifford Pinchot, near the close of today's session of the inquiry when Mr. Nelson accused the lawyer with "trifling" with the committee. White with anger Mr. Pepper demanded to know if that was the judgment of the committee and when several members exclaimed "let it pass" he said a reflection which he resented had been cast upon him and he questioned the senator's right to make such an accusation.

Mr. Pepper was referred to several letters in the records and endeavored to have Chief Engineer Davis, of the reclamation service, who was on the stand refute several statements attributed to Secretary Ballinger to the effect that restorations of certain lands in the west to public entry after they had been withdrawn under Secretary Ballinger, had been made on recommendations of the reclamation service. Chairman Nelson thought it was a waste of time to go over ground already covered and objected to the reading of the letters. In each instance in which the question was put, the witness replied that Mr. Ballinger or had made a misstatement.

"Now I have come to the point I was after," said Attorney Pepper. "At the conclusion of your direct examination this afternoon you said: 'I want it understood that I do not wish to insinuate in anything that I have said that Secretary Ballinger has intentionally or consciously done a wrong. I don't believe he had.'"

"Will you explain your statement more fully?"

Mr. Davis said he merely meant to disclaim any intention that Mr. Ballinger had done wrong. He referred only to his actions, he continued, and not his statements, for many of them were wrong. He did not indicate whether he thought Mr. Ballinger had "intentionally or consciously" made a misstatement.

Mr. Davis continued his testimony before the committee today and was excused at the end of the afternoon session. He flatly contradicted Mr. Ballinger in several statements and said the two did not agree on many reclamation matters, although both had been and he hoped still were good friends. The so-called "black tent" affair figured conspicuously in Mr. Davis' testimony. He said that E. T. Perkins, purchasing agent of the reclamation service in Chicago, went through the west lecturing in a black tent to advertise reclamation work under orders of Secretary Ballinger. The officials of the service were subsequently informed, he said that Perkins was getting an allowance of \$500 a month from the Harriman railway lines in addition to his \$3,500 salary.

Washington, March 12.—Chief Engineer Arthur P. Davis of the reclamation service, who yesterday flatly denied the truth of many statements made by Secretary Ballinger and President Taft and others, continued today as the witness before the Ballinger-Pinchot investigating committee. Mr. Davis was questioned further as to interviews with Secretary Ballinger.

He declared that the head of the interior department had continued constantly in the west, the reclamation service, and that within the last week had told the witness he thought salaries paid in the service were too high, and that he proposed a new salary scale. Mr. Davis said the rumor had persisted that Director Newell was slated to go.

The witness referred further to the enmity against the service in some communities in the west. Senator Sutherland sought to show that much of the dissatisfaction was due to the fact that on some projects the original estimate of the cost of water had been increased from \$20 to a final charge of \$30 an acre. Mr. Davis admitted that this might be the cause of some of the discontent.

Mr. Davis said the engineers of the reclamation service, in order to succeed in their work and in their relations with land owners, ought to have the earnest support of the secretary of the interior. He did not feel that Secretary Ballinger had given his support to this.

GOULD BITTERLY SCORES NEWSPAPERS

Paris, Mar., 12.—Frank Gould in response to a request for a statement regarding the report that he and Miss Edith Kelly, the actress had been married declined to make any such statement but instead wrote the following note: "It is always my policy not to deny anything about myself in the American newspaper. Once when an article concerning me was libelous, I placed the matter in the hands of an attorney. In another case the paper was glad to make proper denials. Anything printed which is not libelous I will treat with contempt, as the American press is more sensational than truthful."